

ABSTRACT**Anti-Virus Protection at a Network Gateway**

A method of preventing the infection of a computer network 1 by a computer virus,
5 where that virus can be spread by e-mail traffic. The method comprises installing at an
e-mail gateway 7 of the network an anti-virus application 12, which application scans at
least incoming e-mail traffic for known viruses. In the event that a new virus is detected
by the provider of the anti-virus application 12, a notification of this event is sent from
the provider to the anti-virus-application 12. At the anti-virus application 12, receipt of
10 said notification results in the diversion of incoming e-mails or their attachments to a
buffer 13 for safe storage.

Figure 1